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Senate Minutes

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KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY
Minutes of the University Senate

McFarland Student Union Building, Room 223
Thursday, April 1, 2010

M. Sanelli called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

PRESENT: Len Barish, Bobbie Berry, Nancy Butler, Ed Christian, Kate Clair, John Delaney for Andrew Arnold, James Delle, Dennis Dietrich, William Donner, Lorri Engstrom, Mitch Freed, Manuel Guzman, Jo Cohen Hamilton, Gregory Hanson, Kathleen Hartman, Joshua Heller, Ted Hickman (Vice-President), Will Jefferson, Andrea Kirshman, Mathias Le Bosse, Inmi Lee, Joe Lippincott, John Lizza, Keith Logan, Ellie Long for Charles Roth, Mark Mahosky, Thomas McNally, James McNiff, Marilyn Meder, George Muugi, Edwin Nieves, Sylvia Pham, Paul Quinn for Sudarshan Fernando, CJ Rhoads, John Riley, Trucilla Sabatino, Paul Sable for Arifeen Daneshyar, Rennie Sacco, Maria Sanelli (President), Steven Schnell, Joo Tan, Carlos Vargas, Patricia Walsh-Coates, Anke Walz (Secretary), Carole Wells, and Barth Yeboah.

ABSENT: Javier Cevallos, Samantha Dennis, Todd Folk, Mary Ellen Jackson, Learning Technologies Representative, Susan Mangold, Christopher Sacchi, and Lisa Schonberger.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Michelle Hughes and Bob Watrous.

I. Announcements

Provost Vargas announced that the Middle States Visit took place yesterday. A formal response should be forthcoming by July 1st from Middle States in regards to items discussed.

II. Approval of the Agenda

M. Sanelli asked to approve the agenda with the following change: to move the “Posthumous Degree” under New Business, and move the remaining items of the agenda accordingly.

L. Barish (seconded by K. Logan) moved to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed.

III. Approval of the Minutes from March 4, 2010

K. Logan (seconded by A. Walz) moved to approve the minutes from March 4, 2010. The motion passed.

IV. President, Committee and Task Force Reports

A. Senate President's Report

M. Sanelli mentioned that she met a new member of the Board of Governors on a visit to campus and wanted to inform all Senators that this person values the uniqueness of each campus and is very much interested in collaboration between all PASSHE State Systems.

M. Sanelli alerted the Senators that she is in her second term as Senate President and there will be a need for a Senate President beginning August 2011. An election will be held in fall for anyone interested in running for Senate President.

B. Committee on Committees Report

T. Hickman extended thanks to all faculty who submitted a Willingness-to-Serve form for governance at the university. The Committee on Committees will meet twice next week and will deliberate on submissions and will bring back to the Senate the list of recommendations for approval at the next Senate meeting.

V. New Business

CJ Rhoads (Associate Professor of Business Administration) spoke about Katrina Nesmith, a senior majoring in Business Administration, who died unexpectedly as a result of a car accident.

T. Hickman (seconded by A. Kirshman) moved

that Kutztown University award a posthumous degree to Katrina Nesmith.

The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Old Business

A. General Education

J. Delle (seconded by K. Logan) made a motion that read:

That the University Senate vote to adopt the new General Education Program as outlined by the four recommendations that were submitted by the General Education Task Force to the Senate back on March 15 and is outlined within the document that was submitted on March 15.

A. Walz (seconded by T. Hickman) moved

that the University Senate takes a role call vote when voting on the new General Education Model.

After role call taken, there were 44 Yes, 3 No, and 6 absences. The motion passed.

J. Delle will send the report to President Cevallos for final approval. The following Governance Structures approved the new model by the following votes: University Curriculum Committee 9 – 0, APSCUF/Rep Council 60 – 5, and University Senate 44 – 3. The Gen Ed Task Force recommends that the university take immediate steps to implement this new program.

A ‘Draft’ of a General Education Assessment Plan was passed out for information only. It will be discussed at a later meeting.

T. Hickman (seconded by CJ Rhoads) moved

that the Senate recognizes the work of the General Education Task Force under the leadership of James Delle by bringing forward a model that overwhelmingly was agreed upon by all 3 governance bodies of the university.

It was questioned on what the timeline was for the Assessment Plan to go into effect and the answer was ASAP. If a plan was to be in place by the beginning of May when the Middle States Commission visits, it would be very beneficial.

B. Midterm Assessment

According to University Senate, there is a policy that does exist in regards to Mid-Term Assessments being done. Provost Vargas mentioned that the new PeopleSoft model will not have a Mid-Term Assessment piece. It was suggested that more information be gathered and all options that are available be looked at with PeopleSoft. A discussion ensued on whether Mid-Term Assessments should continue and if so, should the deadline for these assessments be changed to reflect another date.

CJ Rhoads (seconded by T. Hickman) made a motion that read:

To push back the Mid-Term Assessment deadline by two weeks.

Some faculty members felt that it should be done sooner rather than later. More discussion followed.

N. Butler (seconded by G. Muugi) wanted to amend the motion

that the language be changed to reflect the 9th week of classes rather than the deadline of the two week language.

A vote was then taken on the amended motion with 20 yes, 17 no, and 7 abstentions. Motion did not pass.
CJ Rhoads withdrew the initial motion and moved to make a new motion (seconded by L. Barish) that read:

That the Mid-Term Assessments be due two weeks prior to the Advising session

A point of clarification came up on whether or not this would actually change the Mid-Term Assessments deadline. M. Sanelli felt that this discussion was mute until more information is gathered.

J. Riley (seconded by A. Walz) moved

to table this motion till more information can be gathered in regards to PeopleSoft.

The motion passed.

VII. Adjournment

CJ Rhoads (seconded by N. Butler) moved to adjourn the meeting.
The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Signed:

Dr. Maria Sanelli, President

Dr. Anke Walz, Secretary